

CASMAN Alternative Academy

Begins Book Study Club as Part of its Comprehensive School Reform



One way that CASMAN teachers and administrators have decided to implement the CSR grant is to host a regular book study club. CASMAN is partnering with Ventures Education Systems Corporation to provide the reform model. During the summer, teachers looked through the Ventures' materials and listed books they were interested in reading. The book lists were compiled and a

number of books were ordered - one book for each teacher and one office copy for each title. It was like Christmas the day the books arrived and were distributed. The teachers quickly decided on the first book they wanted to study. Chapters were assigned and two weeks later, the first book study club meeting was hosted.

Teachers shared their ideas, administration sought to understand ways they could support the efforts, and rich discussion ensued. Everyone was so pleased that the next study was scheduled only two weeks after the first. During the second book study club meeting, a list of questions was generated to present to our Ventures' representative at our next training. Reading and discussing the books seems to help bring home some of the key points CASMAN staff members are trying to assimilate into their regular routine. There will definitely be more book studies planned for our future. -- Sarah Bailey



(One member of their staff appears to be a little young)